

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10
CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 DHA-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /101 W
-----060247Z 033977 /15

O 060148Z MAY 77

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3477
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL CAPETOWN IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 1397

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

LONDON FOR THE SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: US, UN, SF, WA
SUBJECT: BRIEFING OF SYG ON CAPE TOWN TALKS

REF: USUN 1375

WESTERN FIVE AMBASSADORS MET WITH SYG WALDHEIM ON MAY 5
TO BRIEF HIM ON CAPE TOWN TALKS. UK CHIEF OF CHANCERY
BYATT AGREED TO BE NOTETAKER, AND TEXT OF HIS
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REPORT FOLLOWS:

QUOTE 2. REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 5 (THE FRENCH AND GERMAN PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES, MCHENRY (US), LAPOINTE (CANADA) AND MURRAY) CALLED ON THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TODAY. MCHENRY GAVE HIM AN ACCOUNT PRECISELY IN THE TERMS OF THE AGREED TALKING POINTS (REFTEL). WALDHEIM EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR

THE EFFORTS OF THE FIVE TO MOVE THE NAMIBIAN ISSUE OUT OF STALEMATE. HE APPRECIATED THE DIFFICULTIES (HE REFERRED TO HIS OWN EARLIER CONTACTS WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN). HE THOUGHT THE PRESENT LINE OF APPROACH SOUNDED MORE HOPEFUL THAN THE IDEA OF A CONFERENCE PROPOSED BY DR KISSINGER LAST YEAR. HE HOPED IT WOULD LEAD TO A SOLUTION. HE WANTED PARTICULARLY TO KNOW WHETHER THE APPOINTMENT OF A UN REPRESENTATIVE WOULD BE SUBJECT TO SOUTH AFRICAN APPROVAL, SAYING THAT, LAST TIME HE HAD HAD TO SUGGEST ABOUT THREE DOZEN PEOPLE BEFORE SECURING SOUTH AFRICAN AGREEMENT TO ESCHER. WE REPLIED THAT VORSTER HAD BEEN TOLD, AND HAD ACCEPTED, THAT NONE OF THE PARTIES WOULD HAVE A VETO OVER THE APPOINTMENT BUT THAT THE SECRETARY-GENERAL WOULD DO HIS BEST TO APPOINT SOMEBODY WHO WAS GENERALLY ACCEPTABLE TO THEM ALL.

3. WALDHEIM ALSO ASKED PARTICULARLY ABOUT BRIEFING OF SWAPO, COMMENTING THAT SECURING THEIR CO-OPERATION WAS ESSENTIAL BUT MIGHT PROVE THE MOST DIFFICULT PART OF THE OPERATION. THEY WOULD BE RELUCTANT TO ACCEPT SOMETHING WHICH, BY IMPLICATION, UNDERMINED THEIR ENDORSEMENT BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AS THE "SOLE REPRESENTATIVES" OF THE NAMIBIANS. HE HOPED THE FRONT LINE STATES WOULD HELP TO PERSUADE SWAPO. HE AGREED THAT IT WAS WISE THAT WE SHOULD NOT AT THIS STAGE PUT OUR IDEAS ON PAPER TO HIM OR TO OTHERS.

4. FARAH, THE SOMALI ASSISTANT SECRETARY-GENERAL, WHO WAS PRESENT, ASKED ABOUT THE INVOLVEMENT OF THE COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA. WE EXPLAINED THAT THIS WAS A PROBLEM AND NEEDED CONFIDENTIAL

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FURTHER THOUGHT. HE ALSO COMMENTED THAT FURTHER PROGRESS ON DETAINEES AND DISCRIMINATORY LEGISLATION WOULD BE VALUABLE SINCE THESE WERE POINTS ON WHICH SWAPO COULD EASILY MAKE DIFFICULTIES.

5. THE SECRETARY-GENERAL COMMENTED TO US THAT FARAH ENJOYED GOOD PERSONAL RELATIONS WITH BOTH THE SOUTH AFRICANS AND SWAPO. HE ALSO REFERRED TO THE PRESENT COMMISSIONER FOR NAMIBIA IN TERMS WHICH MAY HAVE IMPLIED THAT HE WAS THINKING OF A POSSIBLE UN REPRESENTATIVE.

6. WALDHEIM CONCLUDED BY SAYING THAT HE WOULD DO HIS BEST TO HELP, BUT MUST BE CAREFUL TO REMAIN IMPARTIAL.

7. ALTHOUGH THE FORMAL REACTION OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND HIS ADVISERS WAS UNDERSTANDABLY CAUTIOUS, THOUGH SYMPATHETIC, FARAH TOOK MURRAY ASIDE AT THE END OF THE MEETING AND REMARKED THAT "YOU HAVE ACHIEVED MIRACLES". UNQUOTE YOUNG

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SECRETARY GENERAL, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, INDUSTRIALIZED NATIONS, BRIEFINGS, MEETINGS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 06-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977USUNN01397
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770158-0866
Format: TEL
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770583/aaaactrf.tel
Line Count: 116
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 44a50799-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 USUN NEW YORK 1375
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2610573
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BRIEFING OF SYG ON CAPE TOWN TALKS
TAGS: PDEV, PGOV, US, SF, WA, UN, (WALDHEIM, KURT)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/44a50799-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009